110
SOUTHERN CIRCLE
DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICE
Invd. Regr. No. 110
Date 2/11/93

HILL STATIONS.*

1. The Government of India have approved of the hill stations of Mátherán and Mahábaleshvar being credited with all receipts from land and houses (excepting income tax), grass and timber, within the limits of the station, as also fines.

The Superintendents of Mahábaleshvar and Mátherán have been appointed Assistants to the District Collectors and Magistrates concerned with the view of vesting them, in all the proceedings devolving upon their office, with full legal authority.

The Superintendents will also have charge of the public dispensaries of the stations.

(G. Ms. Nos. 687 and 688, dated 21st February 1862.)

2. His Excellency the Governor in Council is pleased to appoint the Superintendent of Mahábaleshvar a Deputy Collector under the provisions of Act XXI of 1852 † and to invest him with the powers exercised by a Mámlatdár under Bombay Act V of 1864. ‡ (G. N. dated 14th April 1874.)

† Repe by the Revenu 1879.
‡ Repe by the latdárs Act, 1

3. The Superintendent of Mátherán has been declared to be *ex officio* an Assistant Collector by Government memorandum No. 688, dated 21st February 1862, and there is no reason to question his legal competence to discharge any duties attaching to that position under the law for the time being in force. (G. R. No. 5662, dated 5th August 1893.)

4. The appointments of Superintendents at Mahábaleshvar and Mátherán are both to be held for two years only. The appointments should be looked upon as permanent for the time they are held. (G. R. No. 815, dated 27th February 1862.)

In calculating the tenure of Civil Surgeoncies at hill stations, the period during which an officer officiates shall be reckoned if such service is immediately followed by the permanent employment of the officer concerned in the appointment in which he has been officiating.

(G. I., H. D., No. 11—486—498, dated 23rd September 1886; *vide* G. R. No. 7405, dated 19th October 1886.)

A period of 3 years has been prescribed as the maximum term of the office of Superintendent of Hill Stations in the Bombay Presidency in the case of Medical officers who when selected for such posts are holding Regimental or Military Staff Medical appointments. The case of Medical officers serving in the Civil Department who are selected for the Superintendentships of Mahábaleshvar and Mátherán rests upon a different footing. Such officers are allowed, if necessary, to retain their hill appointments up to a maximum period of 5 years. (G. R. No. 7518, dated 24th September 1896; *vide* No. 9748, dated 3rd December 1896.)

* For orders relating to travelling allowances for journeys to hill stations, see the Chapter of Travelling Allowances.

5. The Superintendents of Matherán and Mahábaleshvar are not always provided with special employment during the monsoon, but when they are, they receive allowances in accordance with the regulations. But even when provided with special employment they are required to perform the duties connected with their appointments as Superintendents of these hill stations, *viz.*, the collecting of revenue, examining and signing all returns, and charge of the treasury, and are generally responsible for the condition of these stations. It is not desirable to withhold the payment to them of the allowance * of Rs. 100 per mensem attached to their appointments, for the period they are temporarily employed elsewhere during the monsoon. (Letter from the Surgeon-General with the Government of Bombay, No. 857, dated 5th February 1889, and G. R. No. 1560, dated 26th idem.)

6. During the interregnum between the vacation of office by one officer and the appointment of another officer to be Superintendent of Mátherán, or when during the rains the Superintendent is employed elsewhere, not being in Bombay, Poona, or Thána, the charge of the current duties of the office, which during the monsoon are purely nominal, should be entrusted to the Assistant or Deputy Collector in charge of the Karjat Táluka. (G. R. No. 9060, dated 29th November 1889.)

7. The non-commissioned Medical Officer appointed to the post of Superintendent of Pánchgani † should be only appointed to the medical charge of the station, and in all other respects he should be considered the local agent of the First Assistant Collector, who should be Superintendent in addition to his other duties.

The First Assistant Collector should visit Pánchgani early in the touring season and issue his directions to the Medical Officer as Local Agent, and in the hot weather the First Assistant Collector should reside during April and May at Pánchgani which he could do without detriment to his general duties, as Wai, the táluka in which Pánchgani is situated, is in his charge, as also is the Jávli Táluka which adjoins.

The Medical Officer will be invested with the powers of a 3rd Class Magistrate for the disposal of any petty complaints which may arise, but in all

* This allowance was sanctioned by the Government of India in their Resolution in the Financial Department, No. 4113, dated 27th October 1869 (G. R., G. D., No. 2805 of 27th November 1869), and is of the nature of a local allowance within the meaning of Article 38 (*a*) of the Civil Service Regulations. It cannot be treated as part of the consolidated pay of the appointments of the Superintendents. It is payable to the Civil Surgeon of the station for the performance of executive duties as Superintendent, and would not be payable to an Assistant Collector appointed temporarily to discharge those duties. (G. I., H. D., No 387, dated 21st May 1896; *vide* G. R. No. 5135, dated 1st July 1896.)

† A station fund for this hill station was formed under Government Resolution No. 603, dated 25th February 1863.

matters of general administration, such as the repairs to roads, planting trees, regulating the bázár, constructing buildings, &c., he should be under the orders of the First Assistant Collector, both being subordinate to the Collector.

(G. R. No. 5363, dated 19th September 1876.)

8. The cost of all supplies of medicines issued for use at the Mahábaleshvar Station should be charged in the proportion of three-fourths to Government and one-fourth to the Station Fund. (G. R. No. 162, dated 6th October 1862.)

9. Realizations from the sale of right of occupancy of sites at Mahábaleshvar should be credited to the Land Revenue of the year. (G. R. No. 1319, dated 24th April 1863.)

10. The charges for the maintenance of the roads for the use of visitors to the hill stations of Mahábaleshvar should be defrayed exclusively from Station Funds. (G. R. No. 228, dated 14th January 1882.)

11. The fees realized from the sale of forest produce of the Mátherán plateau should be credited to the Station Fund. (G. R. No. 3360, dated 1st May 1883.)

12. The Superintendent of Mahábaleshvar should give immediate notice to any person desiring to resign a Government bungalow assigned to him, for the rent of which he is still liable, that the subletting or re-letting of the house is entirely at that person's own risk and that he is held responsible for the rent. (G. R. No. 2259, dated 15th March 1884.)

13. The countersignature of the Collector is not necessary to the bills for contingent expenditure preferred by the Superintendent of Mátherán; the accounts should, however, be examined by the Collector once a year. (G. R. No. 5584, dated 11th August 1890.)

14. As the Mahábaleshvar Station Fund is administered by Government, and the budget estimate is sanctioned by it, the sanction of Government is necessary for any alterations subsequently made therein. (G. R. No. 4148, dated 17th June 1891.)

15. The Commissioner, N. D., is permitted himself to visit Mátherán and to grant similar permission to such officers serving under him in the Northern Division as have enjoyed the privilege before the Karjat Táluka was transferred from the Thána to the Kolába District.

A similar concession is granted to the Superintending Engineer, N. D., and all officers of the Public Works Department serving under him.

(G. R. No. 8618 dated 12th December 1891.)

16. The following are the rules for the Anjanneri Hill Sanitarium:—

1. *Boundaries.*—The hill station comprises the strip of land in the village of Metkilla Anjanneri lying between the scarps of the upper and lower forts from a line drawn

through the north edge of the Brahman Tank on the south to a similar line drawn through the Elephant Howd on the north-west. Both these boundaries are defined by cairns of stones and the land on the further side of each being reserved forest. Permission to pitch tents there can only be obtained from the District Forest Officer.

2. *Management.*—The management of the station is vested in the Assistant Collector for the time being in charge of Nasik Táluka, who is *ex-officio* Superintendent.

3. *Building Sites.*—Land for building purposes can be obtained within the aforesaid limits on conditions which may be ascertained on application to the Superintendent. Without previous permission in writing from the Superintendent, no one can erect any permanent building on the hill station.

4. *Temporary Sites.*—Tents may be pitched or temporary huts erected by visitors on sites allotted or approved of by the Superintendent. Occupation fees shall be charged in such cases at such rates as the Superintendent on consideration of the situation and area may fix.

5. *Penalties.*— The supervision of all sanitary arrangements and provisions is vested in the Superintendent. Under the provisions of Section 19 of Regulation XII of 1827 it is unlawful—

   1. To defile the water of the Station Tank by washing anything in it, or allowing dirty water to flow into it or by allowing cattle to enter it.
   2. To injure the embankment of the said tank.
   3. To wilfully or by carelessness cause any injury to the paths or ascent maintained within station limits.
   4. To allow cattle to graze at large without permission.
   5. To cut wood, shrubs or reeds without a pass from the Superintendent or other duly empowered officer. Save only in cases when it may be necessary to cut reeds in order to clear a pitching site already allotted.
   6. To cause danger by fire to trees, grass or any property on the hill.

   Breach of any of the above rules shall be punished with fine or imprisonment in accordance with Section 23 of Regulation XIV of 1827. With regard to clause IV it is to be understood that no animal without express permission is to be brought up to the station unless required for the *bonâ fide* domestic or personal use of visitors, and that all such animals must be kept from straying in the woods or in the pathways, under penalty of permission to retain them on the hill be-

ing cancelled in addition to any penalty that may be enforced for breach of clause 4.

6. *Forest Produce.*—Reeds and grass, wood, &c., be cut free in the compounds attached to building sites. If required from other parts of the station, a pass must be obtained from the Superintendent for which a fee will ordinarily be charged.

Posts and rafters for out-houses on the hill will be obtained on application to the Superintendent. Such applications to specify the amount and description required and must be sent in one month before being required in order to give time to provide them. Firewood will also be obtained on passes supplied by the Superintendent. Fees will be charged for these passes as also for posts and rafters and reeds at rates which may be learnt on application.

Without express permission from the Superintendent it is strictly forbidden to cut down any trees in station limits. The village officers have been ordered to report any breaches of this rule, of which immediate and severe notice will be taken.

The grass within station limits, including the spur running north, will be sold annually by the Superintendent, to whom application must be made before the 1st October of each year.

7. *Station Funds.*—All monies received as pitching fees under paragraph 4, penalties under paragraph 5 and fees for wood or reeds, posts, &c., under paragraph 6, shall be credited to the Hill Station Fund* and expended under the direction of the Superintendent.

(G. R. No. 2459, dated 3rd May 1881.)

17. The Collector of Sátára is authorized to dispose of, without reference to Government, cases in which leases of land at Mahábaleshvar are forfeited in consequence of the lessees failing to comply with the terms thereof. (G. R. No. 409, dated 10th February 1863.)

18. As far as security of tenure goes, the occupant of a site at a hill station should be dealt with on the same terms as rayat holders under survey leases. There is no objection to all building leases granted to improving settlers at hill stations being renewable leases, provided that such renewable leases are limited to allotments of five acres each, the object being to make the most of the limited areas available for European habitation, and to prevent all the available land being monopolized by single owners. (G. R. No. 2718, dated 18th July 1864.)

* This Fund is to be treated as an Excluded Local Fund and subjected to the audit of the Accountant General. (G. R. No. 7793, dated 9th October 1895.)

19. The fees levied for the execution or renewal of leases of property at Mahábaleshvar should be credited to the Station Fund. (G. I., F. D., No. 1194, dated 5th July 1865; *vide* G. L. No. 3269, dated 28th July 1865; *vide* also G. R. No. 2265, dated 29th May 1865.)

20. Under instructions from the Government of India, His Excellency the Governor in Council is pleased to cancel the notification dated the 17th October 1876, published at page 956 of the *Bombay Government Gazette* of the 19th idem, declaring "that the land tax on properties situated at Mahábaleshvar shall be redeemable under the rules in force for the time being for the redemption of land revenue, subject to the restrictions in force at Mátherán, as regards cutting down trees," and specifying those restrictions.

In future, under orders * from the Government of India, redemption of land tax on properties at all hill stations of the Bombay Presidency will not be allowed at all. (G. N. dated 24th October 1877; *vide* G. R. No. 6367 of the same date.)

21. In the case of the holder of a leasehold property at Mahábaleshvar wishing to include in his lease a piece of station land close to his property and sold to him by the Superintendent at a public auction, one of the two following courses should be followed:—

(1) a separate lease should be granted to the lessee for the additional land, to expire at the same time as the existing lease and to be in precisely the same form as the existing lease, only striking out such clauses in it as may be inapplicable to the circumstances; or (2) the lessee should surrender the existing lease on receiving a fresh lease of the whole land.

(L. R. No. 329, dated 20th March 1879; *vide* G. R. No. 1662, dated 26th idem.)

22. The Land Revenue Code Rules apply only to leases and grants of occupancies which have been made since they were framed and have no restrospective effect. The rights of a lessee of land at Mahábaleshvar are ascertainable from his lease. A leaseholder has no proprietary right in the soil and, therefore, no right to the minerals or trees. His rights are such only as his lease conveys to him. (L. R. No. 501, dated 18th April 1883; *vide* G. R. No. 3482, dated 5th May 1883.)

23. The following opinion of the Remembrancer of Legal Affairs, No. 1075, dated 14th August 1884, was communicated for information and guidance to the Collector of Sátára and the Commissioner, C. D., in connection with an application regarding the renewal of the lease in respect of certain property at Mahábaleshvar:—

* *I. e.*, G. of I. letter No. 896, dated 9th December 1876.

"It is not necessary to the validity of the lease that it should be sealed, and sealing is not in accordance with native custom. But as the document purports to be sealed by the lessees, it is advisable, I think, that it be returned to them with a view to their seals being attached thereto. Or a fresh lease might be sent to them for execution in which the word 'seal' in the last line but two and the word 'sealed' in the last line are struck out. I would recommend the omission of these two words in all future similar leases."

(G. R. No. 6916, dated 28th August 1884.)

24. The Collector of Kolába is authorized to act in behalf of the Collector of Thána in all matters relating to Mátherán leases.* (G. R. No. 8618, dated 12th December 1891.)

25. The following draft form of the administration report of the Mátherán Hill Station was approved by Government and ordered to be adopted for all hill stations. It was further directed that the report should also contain information under the following further headings:—

Under Building Sites—
(*a*) Leases expired,
(*b*) „ renewed,
(*c*) „ under consideration,
Thermometer and hydrometer readings,
Conservancy,
Roads,
Road-side trees,
Agricultural experiments,
Government bungalows,
Treasury transactions,
Changes in office and fixed establishments,
Police arrangements—
Crime,
Cemetery,
Church,
Markets,
Taxes—
(*a*) New,
(*b*) Abolished,
(*c*) Modified,
Survey,

and that such of the headings of the report as were not applicable to any particular hill station, might be omitted from the report for that station.

(*Draft form of report*).

No. of 18 .

From

SUPERINTENDENT,

Mátherán;

To

COLLECTOR OF THÁNA.

Superintendent's Office,

Mátherán, _____ 18 .

Sir,

I have the honour to forward the annual report on the administration of the hill station of Mátherán for the financial year 1882-83. I was in charge of the hill station during _____ of the year under report (if in charge during a part of the year, state the period and name of the officer who previously held the office).

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* A form of leases for sites at Mátherán was sanctioned by Government Resolution No. 4698, dated 16th June 1896.

Season and Rainfall.

Rainfall.	
Average of preceding five years.	Current year.
Inches. Cents.	Inches Cents

2. The fall of rain during the year 1882-83 was more by—— inches (or less as the case may be) than in the preceding year and less (or more as the case may be) by —— inches than the average fall of the preceding five years. The monthly fall and the temperature during the year is exhibited in the Appendix marked A. There is no rice cultivation on the hill. The only crops grown thereon during the cold or hot weather in small patches of ground by a few Chinese (or other castes, mentioning them) being vegetables consisting of ————. The produce is locally consumed by the visitors of the hill.

Population.

3. There is scarcely any permanently resident population on the hill; a few mális or servants of the owners of the bungalows, the Hospital Assistant, the Head Constable and the Constables under him and the Superintendent's Office peon being generally the only persons on the hill during the monsoon. The hill is visited (here mention the seasons and give any particulars thought necessary or interesting about them).

Public Health.

4. The amount of relief afforded by the Dispensary as compared with the preceding year shows an increase (or decrease as the case may be) of ———— in-patients and of ———— out-patients. The total number of patients treated under each class being

	In-patients.	Out-patients.	Total.
1882-83...			
1881-82...			

The state of public health during the year under report was (state here whether satisfactory or otherwise) fever, small pox (or any other disease as the case may be) prevailed to (slight or large extent).

5. The subjoined table exhibits the total comparative mortality during the year:

Disease.	1882-83.	1881-82.	More.	Less.
Cholera				
Fever				
Small-pox				
Bowel complaints ...				
Other causes... ...				
Total...				

The causes of the increased (or decreased) mortality may be attributed to (here state causes).

[*Note.*—The subject of water-supply should be referred to in a separate paragraph under "Public Health."]

6. The progress of vaccination during the year under report is shown in the margin and indicates an increase (or decrease as the case may be) of ——— in primary and of in re-vaccination.

	1882-83.	1881-82.
Primary...		
Re-vaccination. ...		

Rates of Wages and Prices.

7. The rates of wages for skilled and unskilled labour and of hire for conveyances were as given below :—

Year.	Wages per diem.		Per trip up or down the Hill.		
	Skilled.	Unskilled.	Horses.	Palanquin.	Tonjon.
1882-83....					
1881-82....					

8. There has been a rise (or fall as the case may be) in the prices of each of the articles mentioned in the margin which are the staple common food of the station. The articles of food are imported into the station by dealers from The rise in the price of wheat (or any other article as the case may be) is attributed to (here state the cause). A weekly bázár (Sunday) is held on the hill.

Articles.	Quantity per Rupee per standard seer.	
	On 31st March 1883.	On 31st March 1882.

Building Sites.

9. There are —— building sites marked off into Nos. Of these —— are unoccupied and —— occupied. The gross annual rent payable for the latter amounts to Rs. ———. The assessment of —— of the occupied sites has been fixed at Rs. 7 per acre sanctioned in Government Resolution No. 2310 of the 4th May 1878, Revenue Department, and that of —— sites has been fixed at Rs. 5 per acre, being the odd rent fixed under the old leases still current. During the year under report —— additional sites were applied for and taken up at the sanctioned rate of assessment. The occupancy right thereof was sold by public auction, which realised Rs. —— (if the occupancy right was sold on payment of fixed price, state amount paid.) No sites were resigned by occupants or resumed by Government in consequence of breach of the terms of the leases on which they are held. Of the —— occupied sites mentioned above —— have been built on. The rent of the bungalows varies from Rs. —— to Rs. —— per cold season and

from Rs. —— to Rs. —— in hot season. There is scarcely any demand for building sites on the hill (if otherwise state so).

Revenue.

10. The revenues of the Station Fund are obtained mainly from (1) the annual fixed Government grant, (2) the annual rent paid by site-holders and (3) the road toll. Appendix B details the various items of annual receipts. The receipts during the year under report aggregate Rs. —— which compared with the result of the preceding year show a falling off of Rs. —— (or an increase as the case may be) owing to ——————

[*Note.*—All the information necessary as regards the income levied under the Municipal Act or apart from that accruing from the Station Fund can be given in the appendix referred to in this paragraph, and be duly reviewed in paragraphs 11 and 12.]

11. The outstanding balances amount to Rs. —— detailed in the subjoined table.

Years.	On account of rent of building sites.			On account of other miscellaneous items.			Total.			Causes of the outstanding balances.
	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	
1882-83 ...										
1881-82 ...										
and previous years (if any).										

Expenditure.

12. The total expenditure during the year under report amounted to Rs. —— as against Rs. —— of the preceding year, showing an increase (or decrease as the case may be) of Rs. —— owing principally to —— . It will be seen from the Appendix C that the chief ordinary charges on the Station Fund are the salaries of the Hospital Assistant, the Superintendent's office establishment and the Police guard, and the expenditure on account of petty repairs and miscellaneous local improvements.

13. The only public work of importance executed or undertaken during the year under report was that of —————— the cost of which is estimated at Rs. ——

14. The loan of Rs. —— obtained from Government in —— to defray the expenditure on account of —— is in the course of liquidation by half-yearly instalment of Rs. —— . The total instalments paid up to the end of the year under report amount to Rs. ——

Magisterial.

15. During the year under report there were —— cases tried by me in my capacity as 3rd Class Magistrate. The following table shows the number of persons dealt with and the result of the trial :—

Year.	No. of offences.	Total number of accused persons dealt with.	No. of persons acquitted or discharged.	No. of persons convicted.	No. of offences in which imprisonment was awarded.	No. of offences in which imprisonment as well as fine was awarded.	No. of offences in which fine alone was imposed.
1882-83.							
1881-82.							

The majority of the crimes committed were trifling offences such as assault, intentional insult, criminal force, mischief, petty thefts, &c.

[*Note.*—This paragraph should show not only the magisterial work of the Superintendent but also of the 3rd or other class Magistrate resident at the station. The work of such officer should be given separately, so as to be readily distinguishable.]

Education.

16. There is a vernacular school on the hill station towards which the Station Fund contributes an annual sum of Rs. ——. The boys attending the school belong chiefly to the ———— castes. The average daily attendance is ——. I inspected the school ———— times and found the progress of the boys satisfactory (if otherwise state so).

17. General remarks.

I have, &c.,

Superintendent,
Mátherán.

APPENDIX A.

Table showing the temperature and rainfall on Mátherán Hill during the year 1882-83.

Months.	Temperature.			Rain.		Remarks.
	Maximum	Minimum.	Mean.	Inches	Cents.	
April 1882.						
May „						
June „						
July „						
August „						
September „						
October „						
November „						
December „						
January 1883.						
February „						
March „						
Total ..						

Mátherán, _____ *189* .

Superintendent, Mátherán.

APPENDIX.

Annual statement of Mátherán Station Fund receipts

Year.	1881-82.	1882-83.
Opening balance.		
Government grant.		
Annual rent paid by siteholders.		
Rent of Bazár huts and shops.		
Fees for stalls paid by shop-keepers at Sunday bazár.		
Fees for cattle grazing.		
Fines for cattle impounded and other fines.		
Fees on account of Sweeper Tax received from shopkeepers, cooles and other persons employed on the hill.		
Fees for tattoos going up or down the hill.		
Receipts for medicines sold to applicants.		

Mátherán, _____ *18* .

APPENDIX

Annual statement of Mátherán Station Fund expenditure

Year.	1881-82.	1882-83.
Hospital Assistant's pay.		
Hospital Assistant's grain compensation.		
Regular peon establishment, including Chaudry, Mucaddums and Mális.		
Extra Police paid for from Station Fund, including the cost of clothing.		
Temporary establishment of collection of fees, &c.,		
Scavenging establishment, such as sweepers, for 9 months in the year.		
Cost of supply of European medicines, &c., for the dispensary.		
Cost of supply of country medicines, &c., for the dispensary.		
Contingent charges.		

Mátherán, _____

B.

for the year 1882-83 as compared with 1881-82.

Proceeds of firewood supplied from the Depôt to visitors, &c., on the hill.	Sale-proceeds of copies of Hill maps and Bellasis account of the Hill Station.	Contract for collection of chikekai and hardas.	Fees recieved from Bhoras or hawkers on the hill by the season.	Amount of contract for Ghât toll collection.	Registration-fees of Bhistis, bullocks on the hill.	Hire of tonjons belonging to the station.	Rent for Superintendent's house.	Conveyance nerrick carts.	Fees levied on palkees, tonjons plying up or down the hill.	Total.

Superintendent, Mátherán.

C.

for the year 1882-83 as compared with 1881-82.

Cost of firewood purchased for the Depôt.	Contribution for the Vernacular School.	Contribution towards the establishment in the Accountant-General's Office.	Expenditure on account of repairs to Bazar shops.	Expenditure on account of *bond fide* public works.	Expenditure on public works carried out by the Executive Engineer.	Total.	Closing balance.	Grand Total.

Superintendent, Mátherán.

26. Superintendents of hill stations are not concerned with forest conservancy and need not, therefore, report on the subject in their annual administration report. (G. R. No. 2753, dated 1st April 1885.)

27. The annual administration report for the sanitarium of Mátherán should be submitted by the 1st October. (G. R. No. 9384, dated 21st December 1883.)

28. It is left to the Commissioner, C. D., to dispose of the annual administration report of the hill station of Pánchgani. (G. R. No. 4771, dated 5th July 1886.)